

## WATER RESOURCES RESEARCH GRANT PROPOSAL

Project ID: 2005AZ79B

Title: Preliminary Evaluation of Perchlorate Contamination of Ground Water In The

Lower Colorado River Region

Project Type: Research

Focus Categories: Water Quality, Toxic Substances, Groundwater

**Keywords:** groundwater

**Start Date:** 03/01/2005

**End Date:** 02/28/2006

Federal Funds Requested: \$11,949

**Non-Federal Matching Funds Requested: \$24,096** 

**Congressional District:** 7

**Principal Investigator:** 

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## **Abstract**

The Colorado River is contaminated with low levels of perchlorate. Perchlorate is linked to thyroid dysfunction and considered a health threat to humans. It is presumed most of this contamination is from aerospace or defense related fuel industries near the Las Vegas wash. The Colorado River is a major source of drinking water in Arizona. Furthermore, the Colorado River water is used for irrigation of food crops and there is evidence that food crops irrigated with this water sometimes accumulate perchlorate. We have no information if, and to what extent, seepage from surface water conveyance systems and irrigation drainage have contaminated ground water sources in the Yuma area. The objectives of this study are to evaluate ground water in the Yuma area of the lower Colorado River region for perchlorate contamination.